

## [Mrs. John Grosvenor]

[??] [?]

### FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Frederick W Kaul L A Rollins ADDRESS Hastings, Nebraska

DATE Nov. 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

1. Name and address of informant Mrs. John Grosvenor, Hastings, Nebr
2. Date and time of interview Nov. 1938
3. Place of interview at home
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant none
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you none
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

Modern, cozy, 5 room house; well painted and very neat yard. Rooms very clean. Some modern furniture. House and walls filled with pictures, tables, clocks, fancy china and glassware covering accumulations over the last sixty years. [???

### FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OR WORKER Frederick W Kaul L A Rollins ADDRESS Hastings, Nebr.

DATE Nov. 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

## Library of Congress

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. John Grosvenor, Hastings, Nebr.

1. Ancestry Dutch and Irish

2. Place and date of birth Moorefield, Ohio, Dec. 20, 1861.

3. Family husband; one adopted son

4. Place lived in, with dates

Moorefield, Ohio. Sutton, Neb. Logan, Kans. Hastings, Neb.

5. Education, with dates

Country grade school

6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates

farmer's wife

7. Special skills and interests

Splendid producing fine garden and flowers

8. Community and religious activities

First Christian Church

9. Description of informant

Small thin, alert and active. Always worked hard, enjoys it. Very fiendly

10. Other points gained in interview

## Library of Congress

Her and her husband live alone. Have been married 59 years. Started out together on a homestead with nothing. Retired now many years. Enjoys life immensely. Note—Above as quoted by Mrs. Grosvenor

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

NAME OR WORKER Frederick W Kaul L A Rollins ADDRESS Hastings, Neb.

DATE Nov. 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. John Grosvenor, Hastings, Neb.

Attached copy

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Federal Writers' Project

Frederick W Kaul—L A Rollins

Hastings, Nebraska.

Source:

as related by Mrs. John Grosvenor, 1404 West 6th St., Hastings, Neb. Easter Sunday Storm of 1873 " In 1873, I was on a farm near Sutton, Neb. We had a sod house. We had what was called the big room, lean to kitchen and dug out bedroom. This was sort of like going down a half dug kitchen. There was a large family. 8 children and my father and mother.

We had two beds in the big room. These like all the rest of things were made of cottonwood lumber. We slept on straw ticks. We entertained our company in the big room.

## Library of Congress

The storm came toward evening and got as dark as night. Chickens went to roost and I'll never forget how dark it got. Snowed all night hard, a strong wind, much drifting and covered the windows.

[/There?] was a mouse hole in the dirt roof over one of the beds in the big room. The snow sifted thru this hole and drifted from bed to the roof.

We had only a straw barn and Paw got out to see \* about [first\*] the one horse we had. He thought it would be frozen but it wasn't and he brought it in the big room with most of the family. Pulled the beds to center of room and made a stall there near the wall. The one cow and calf we put in the lean to kitchen. Chickens we put in the dug out bedroom. It kept on snowing and the wind got stronger. It snowed for 3 days and 3 nights and dark nearly all the time as snow was so thick. After the first day if anyone left the house, they tied a rope around them. It wasn't so cold but the wind and such thick wet and heavy snow that stuck to everything and chilled right thru in a hurry.

2

The great deep draws were just level. The wind and noise was terrific all the time. Made one's ears hum and buzz all the time.

We had a pulley well. Paw on the 2nd afternoon wanted a real drink of water. We all did. Were so sick of snow water. The well was right close to the house.

Paw took the wooden bucket with him. Got to the well and was holding the bucket between his legs while he started to draw the water. The wind got the bucket.

He came in the house, his long flowing beard and clothes covered with snow.

Maw said, "Where's the bucket of water."

Paw said, "God only knows, between heaven and earth somewhere."

## Library of Congress

Since those many years ago, I've thought and laughed many times over this. Paw mad and disgusted and plenty sick of snow water. We kids too standing around thinking of that good well water only a few feet away.

When the snow went off we found the bucket a half mile from home.

We had only snow water, buffalo meat, bread and gravy. Buffalo gravy, I think and so many others too, have said so is the most delicious of all, but of meat I'll take beef or pork."